

**November Meeting****Friday, November 21
8:00 PM**

**Our Savior's Lutheran
Church
1035 Carol Lane
Lafayette, CA****Presidential QRM****By Sam Lipson, KO6JR**

Well, Pacificon '97 is over and in my opinion, was quite successful. Compliments to Greg, KE6VTA, Sylvia, KC6YJV, and their staff for putting on another great Pacific Division Convention. Plans for 1998 are already underway. As you may have heard, we are moving down the street to the Sheraton which has larger facilities. Now is the time to get involved. I can promise you new challenges as we move to a larger facility and lots of fun.

Fall is upon us and so are the last few issues which we deal with as a Club for the year. Elections are at the next meeting. Look for your ballot in this *Carrier*. Also, we will be ratifying the new dues structure for the Club. In December, look for our Holiday Party. Details are also in this *Carrier*.

Antenna Ordinances also seem to be hot issues. Get involved especially if your community is considering legislation which would restrict our antennas. Let the Club know what is going on. Together we can all help each other out and guide legislative bodies in formulating good laws. The Tower Talk SIG on Designlink is a perfect place to let news be known to our membership.

Lastly, I want to again thank everyone who put in time and effort in getting our antennas back up on the tower; this includes everyone from the day of the storm 22 months ago through our latest work getting our high level repeaters back up where they should be. Thanks again to all.

73, Sam, KO6JR

...At Your Service**By Charles Arthur, AC6WU**

Thank you all for letting me serve as the club's Emergency Coordinator this past year. I was asked the other day what it was that I do. With great pride I could reply "as little as possible." I meant that it has been a good year in this part of the world. What actions that were taken in the emergency field was minimal and we made it through another year intact. I hope the next year will be as uneventful emergency-wise. We really live in a great geographic area.

An emergency, however, can strike at any time and anywhere. I cannot stress being prepared enough. More important than preparedness though, is one's attitude. Don't sit back and wait for something to happen. Be ready mentally!

Although I will not be writing this column beyond the end of the year, I will continue to take an active part in the amateur radio community. I will say, though, this is and should always be viewed as a hobby, and as such should not take precedence over other activities in our lives. Life is too short to be taken seriously.

Wishing you all good transmissions, 73... Charles, AC6WU.

Ramblings From the Editor**By Jerry Gardner, W6UV**

Thanksgiving time is upon us once again and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who help me get the *Carrier* out each month. Special thanks go to everyone who helped with distribution this year: Dick, Jay, JC, Pete, Greg, Sam, and Richard. My apologies if I've forgotten anyone. Thanks to everyone who contributed material in the form of articles, letters, pictures, etc. Special thanks to Dick, JC, Sam,

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Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX

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The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and space is available.

All material must be submitted to the editor by the first of day of the month of publication. Material is accepted on a first-in, first-out basis. Articles and other material may be submitted via Internet email to w6uv@wco.com (preferred), or delivered to the editor at the address listed below. Material will be accepted in plain ASCII, Word for Windows, or WordPerfect format. Material may also be submitted as hardcopy.

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Proposed MDARC Dues Structure

The following table shows the new proposed dues structure for MDARC and the RRRC (Rocky Ridge Repeater Committee.) Associate members are students, Novice class amateurs, or unlicensed individuals.

Regular members	\$20	Regular members have 1 vote
Family membership	\$30	Family members have 1 vote for each person in the family
Associate members	\$10	Associate members have 1 vote
RRRC members	\$30	RRRC members get 1 autodial slot
RRRC Family membership	\$5	RRRC Family membership is \$5 extra for RRRC

Scouts Thank MDARC for Successful JOTA

By Mike Greevich, KB6USJ

The 40th scout radio jamboree during Pacificon at the Hilton was a huge success. With an estimated 100 scouts and Pacificon participants sharing and listening to many exciting QSO's from San Diego, Alberta Canada, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Georgia, Peru Illinois, Chicago, Round Mountain Nevada, Tuscon Arizona, and two great DX's from Argentina and Baja. Local troops checked in with us during Saturday afternoon and Sunday creating an impromptu net with scouts camping out in Riverside, Fort MacArthur, and Sea Scouts aboard ship in Napa. We also had W6EPA/6 checking in with a troop camping on Mt. Diablo. Many thanks to HRO for the use of the Yaesu FT-990. Many Pacificon participants took a good look at this fine rig. Thanks to Tom Schiller and Force 12 for the use of their high-performance beam, which gave us the punch we needed for the afternoon pileups on 20 meters.

Concurrent operations were had via Internet with the JOTI network. Jamboree of the Internet is a new program linking scouts throughout the world via an Internet chat room. Some fine exchanges were made through this communications medium. And last, but not least, the operators at the special events station, Josh Berry, KE6IZQ, Jim Berry, KE6IZP, Aaron Matzkin, KE6ZZS, Pete Sutherland, WD6DKW, and Dan Sutherland, KF6DJD. The antenna installation duo of Lew Cook, K5QXX and Mike Greevich, KB6USJ did an outstanding job installing our alternate antenna, an R7 vertical, on the roof of the Hilton 11 stories up. Once again, if I have forgotten anyone, your participation was appreciated. 73 till next year.

Pacificon '97 Was a Complete Success

By Greg Estep, KE6VTA

Thanks to all of you that helped make this year's PACIFICON one to remember. It is truly a team effort and I thank everyone that helped. Next year's PACIFICON will be bigger and more people are needed to help. Please consider checking the PACIFICON box on the membership application. Better yet mark November 22 at 8:00 AM on your calendar and come to the PACIFICON meeting at the Concord Sheraton.

The planning meetings are very important for making this Hamfest the success that it is. Your ideas and work year round is what makes this event special. I wish I could print all the email and comments that we get each year, however the MDARC Carrier would quickly become the PACIFICON newsletter. If you can't make the Saturday meetings once a month, then consider volunteering to help out at the convention itself. We can find a job that will help PACIFICON '98 be a Hamfest to remember.

Please stop by my table at the MDARC meeting and volunteer. This is the time to get in on the ground floor of the planning for the Sheraton and a time that your ideas are needed.

Finally, please mark October 16-18, 1998 on your calendar for PACIFICON '98.

From The Repeater Committee

By Jim Brunk, Chairman

How Copy?

Can you hit the repeaters?

The antennas are in place, the racks are moved and the repeaters are running. This final equipment move occurred just prior to PACIFICON weekend. After many months of waiting, the systems are up and running. Preliminary reports indicate that we have at least the same coverage as before the tower went down.

The Repeater Committee is interested in how well the machines play. Elsewhere this month's issue is a signal report form. It is also on the Design Link BBS and will soon be on the web page. If you encounter signal strength of less than S9, send in a report.

The Committee

There has been a request to publish the names of the members of the committee. This list is also found on the Club's BBS. Any interested club member is invited to join us. We meet the first Saturday of the month.

Name	Email
Tim Barrett	wd9biv@earthlink.net
Jack Beck	jbeck@ebmud.com
Jim Brunk	brunk@ix.netcom.com
Howard Burk	hburk@earthlink.com
Jay Caldis	pcaldis@earthlink.com
Bert Dawson	none
Keith Lattin	Design Link BBS
John Lytle	Design Link BBS
JC Smith	k0hps@amsat.org or Design Link BBS
John Stuart	jwsa@pge.com
Jim Tittle	jtittle@asphere.com
Barry Winkler	kc6wya@earthlink.net

So, What does this all Mean?

This means it is now time to renew old friendships with people you couldn't work for the last year and a half. It means that you can explore new modes of operation. It means that

we can more easily support public service. It means that there is an enhanced emergency communications resource.

A big thanks goes out to all the people who have spent the last 22 months putting these systems back in order.

Repeater Coverage Survey

The Rocky Ridge Repeater Committee is trying to determine how our new antenna location has affected coverage. We would appreciate it if as many members as possible would fill out and return the attached form. If you operate from multiple locations, with multiple radios or antennas or on multiple MDARC repeaters, please copy the form and submit one for each location, radio, antenna and repeater. Please fill it out as completely as possible, but if there is some information you do not know don't let that stop you from sending it in. The more replies we can get the better we will be able to evaluate our coverage and make plans for improving it. Please send your replies to Jim Brunk, N6BHX. Mailing address: 514 Palms Drive, Martinez, CA 94553. E-mail: brunk@ix.netcom.com or via the DesignLink BBS.

If you are using a "beam" antenna, be sure it's pointed at the top of Mt. Diablo.

Which repeater? ☐ 147.060 ☐ 224.780 ☐ 441.325

Your location (city and cross streets please):

Height of your antenna above ground:

Type of antenna:

Gain claimed by antenna mfr.:

Length and type of coax (if any):

Type of receiver:

Received signal strength:

Are you using a preamp? If yes, how many dB gain?

Comments? (Please include any pertinent information such as if there is a big hill directly between you and the top of the mountain.)

This form is also available on the MDARC Web Page and on the DesignLink BBS.

MDARC General Meeting Minutes

October 10, 1997

The meeting was called to order at 8 p.m. by President Sam, KO6JR, who introduced visitors and upgrades. New classes will begin after the first of the year.

Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the August minutes as published. There were no minutes for the September auction meeting.

Treasurer Greg, KE6VTA, reported a bank balance of \$36,375, after merging the funds of Rocky Ridge into the general budget, plus \$1477.70 resulting from the auction.

New membership chairman Pete Smith, W6NZY, reported a current membership total of 562.

Barry, KC6WYA, reported that the 220 and 2-meter antennas are on the tower, and tomorrow the cabinets will be moved. Thanks to Barry; Howard, KE6PTT; Jack, KE6TIP; Jay, KT6Y; J.C., K0HPS; John, KD6ZMP; and any others whose names may be omitted for the many long hours they have spent to get

the repeater back into operation.

As requested by the membership at the August meeting, the board has formulated a proposed revised dues structure for 1998 to be published in the *Carrier* in October and November, and voted upon in December concurrently with the election of officers. Greg, KE6VTA, summarized the proposal as follows:

-Regular membership	one vote	\$20
-Family membership	one vote each	\$30
-Associate membership	one vote	\$10
(student, novice, unlicensed)		
-Rocky Ridge autodial privilege-add'l.		\$30
-Rocky Ridge family membership		\$35
(covers one autodial slot per family, but a family could request a second slot if desired)		
-Rocky Ridge committee members are entitled to an autodial slot.		

The effect of this change upon the budget is printed and
continued on page 6

Meeting of the MDARC Board of Directors

October 6, 1997

The monthly meeting of the board of directors of MDARC was called to order by President Sam Lipson, KO6JR, at Emil Villa's Restaurant in Concord on October 6, 1997, at 7:30 pm. Other members present: Cal Groom, KE6OE; Greg Estep, KE6VTA; Charles Arthur, AC6WU; George Roush, WB6OFH; Donna Cook, KE6PPM; Jerry Gardner, W6UV; John Stuart, KM6QX; Ed Ritchie, K6SFD; Tracey Schwartz, KE6TOT; Jim Brunk, N6BHX; Bert Dawson, KB7BMG; Lew Cook, K5QXX;

and Paul Dickey, N6JOX.

Motion to approve the minutes of the August and September board meetings were approved as published. Motion carried.

Treasurer Greg, KE6VTA, reported a balance of \$25,085, plus \$13,000 from Rocky Ridge and \$1477.70 from last month's auction.

George, WB6OFH, and Tracey, KE6TOT, reported on plans for the holiday social. One volunteer is needed to play the piano and lead the music, and another for the emcee, in addition to a long-time member who will make a short speech in honor of the 50th anniversary of MDARC. President Sam will recruit

the master of ceremonies. The cost is based upon the average attendance in recent years with subsidy, resulting in \$15 per adult and \$8 for a child's plate. A motion was made to hold the holiday social on December 17, at the Contra Costa Country Club, 801 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill, at the above cost. Motion carried. A signup sheet will be available at the general meeting on Friday, and George will find a volunteer to collect money. President Sam will ask Lauren to cancel the church reservation for December. Tracey will contact Dick Schulze, AA6DL, about purchasing boxes of See's Candy.

Jim Brunk, N6BHX, reported on the

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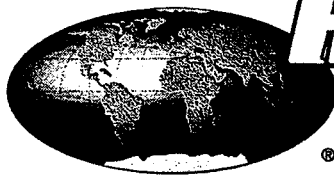
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status of the repeater. The 220 and 2-meter box is better since Saturday. The repeater is being heard in locations which were not previously reached. Every effort is being made to insure that it does not interfere with other repeaters within range. ATV and 440 will be hooked up this weekend. Thanks to Dick Brown, KT6X; Keith Lattin, N6PMF; and Barry Winkler, KC6WYA, for their hard work and perseverance.

The nominating committee is still searching for a candidate for vice president. Please contact Lauren Styles, WA6CIE, with suggestions.

The revised dues structure was published once, will be published a second time in October, and will be voted upon in November. The wording will be clarified as to the repeater cost of \$5.00 per family, rather than per individual.

Greg, KE6VTA, reported that Pacificon is ready to go, with the exception of the program. Plans are being finalized for the move to the Sheraton in 1998.

New Business:

A revised job description for the membership chairman is in progress. Pete Smith, W6NZY, has taken on the job, but he will not be able to produce the 1998 directory.

The club has been contacted by a non-ham in San Ramon regarding interference with his radio and television. Attempting to get more info.

The antenna hearing in Walnut Creek will be held tomorrow night (Tuesday).

The chairman of CCRA said that MDARC maligned his group by an article in last month's *Carrier*. He has been invited to submit a letter for publication.

There are some Rocky Ridge items in need of storage space. Ed Ritchie will check with the fire department to see if they can store the items.

There was some discussion as to the need for membership forms for Rocky Ridge and MDARC, particularly for availability at Pacificon. Sam will work up a new trifold.

The *Carrier* deadline is November 1st and will contain a ballot form.

John Stuart, KM6QX, said that repeater usage rules are being drafted. Jim, N6BHX, said that a control operator is needed to assure that the repeater is run in accordance with paragraph 97. Sam asked that a list of questions be submitted and brought before the board. The main issue is what to do with abusers. Sam asked for a draft that he can present to counsel for comment as to compliance with paragraph 97 and consistent enforcement of the rules.

Charles Arthur, AC6WU, has been asked to publish a collection of his articles. He will do so for distribution, free of charge.

The next board meeting will be November 10 at 7:30, at Baker's Square instead of the usual location. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10

Respectfully submitted, Donna Cook, KE6PPM

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MDARC General Meeting Minutes

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available. Club members are encouraged to support the repeater, whether or not they use autodial.

MDARC needs a webmaster. Please see Sam, KO6JR, to volunteer.

Ed, K6SFD, thanked all who supported the Walnut Creek ham in his antenna dispute with the city. Many hams attended the city council meeting and wrote letters in support.

The *Carrier* deadline is Saturday, November 1. Members should have it by the Monday preceding the meeting so that ballots can be mailed.

George, WB6OFH, announced final plans for the holiday social. The dinner will be held on Wednesday, December 17, starting at 6:00 p.m. with dinner served at 7:00. Location will be Contra Costa Country Club on Golf Club Road in Pleasant Hill. Cost will be \$15 for adults and \$8 for a child's plate. The club will subsidize the balance.

Lauren, WA6CIE, announced the following nominations for next year's club officers: For president, Sam Lipson, KO6JR; no one has agreed to run for vice president; for secretary, Mac McIntyre, KE6ZZG; for treasurer, Greg Estep, KE6VTA; for emergency coordinator, Robert Hampton, KF6FGH; and candidates for board of directors are Cal Groom, KE6OEH; Paul Dickey, N6JOX; Keith Lattin, N6PMF; and Charles Arthur, AC6WU. The motion was made to leave the nominating committee in place until publication of the *Carrier*. Motion carried. Please contact Lauren Styles, Jim Tittle, or Bruce Smith, with any additional nominees.

Robert Bickel, K6FX, gave more details on his efforts to install an antenna on his property in Walnut Creek. Some neighbors had objected to the antenna, resulting in a city council moratorium until they could review the ordinance. Thanks to all who attended the meeting and wrote letters on his behalf, the city council agreed not to enact the moratorium. The application went forward and he picked up the permits today. Now the council wants to review the ordinance again. Robert will pass on more information to the club when it is available.

After a break, the program for the evening was given by the Pacificon committee.

Sylvia, KC6YJV, said that all speakers are set, but she would like to have a club member say a few words to introduce each speaker. She will call upon someone in the hallway just before the sessions begin and hand the draftee a few notes for the introduction.

Vicki, N6KLS, said that a few banquet tickets are still available. The cost is \$32.00 and the Bicycle Behemoth speaker should be very interesting.

Ed, K6SFD, described the seminars dealing with emergency services.

Ray, W6FYA, discussed plans for the antenna forum. Only ten tickets remain, so contact Dick Brown or Ann Hernandez immediately if you wish to attend.

Lew, K5QXX, outlined plans for the special events station and the fifty-year-old station commemorating the club's fiftieth anniversary.

Dick, KT6X, described the planned internet demonstration. There will be four computers with wireless modems, and the modems will be available for sale.

Lauren, WA6CIE, gave a description of the prizes and method of distributing. The grand prize is an IC 706 Mark II, valued at approximately \$1500, and will be delivered to the winner if not present. There will be more than seventy attendance prizes which must be claimed by Sunday noon or will be redrawn at the forum. Banquet prizes include a dual-band mobile rig.

JC, K0HPS, will have a satellite events station in operation and tracking programs to follow the orbits. Last year, noise was a problem. This should be solved by using ten headsets with individual volume controls.

Richard, WA5HQJ, will be in charge of Wouff Hong. Jeff, KF6EUM, and Lynn will be running the hospitality suite. Jack, KE6TIP, will be in charge of talk-in. Barry, KC6WYA, will cover APRS.

Dick, KJ6YE, has sold approximately 400 tickets to date!

There will be a meeting of the Pacificon committee at 8 a.m. Saturday at Baker's Square, and on Friday, October 17th, the kickoff breakfast will be at 6 a.m. at Denny's restaurant on Willow Pass.

Note: The next board meeting will be on November 10 at 7:30 at Baker's Square (not Emil Villa's).

Meeting adjourned at 9:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Cook, KE6PPM

The Contra Costa Repeater Association Celebrates 20 Years of Service

by Brad Watson, WA6AEO

[Editor's Note: The following article was submitted in response to a comment I made in the September *Carrier* in reference to the CCRA.]

The CCRA was formed in 1977 to serve the communications needs of Contra Costa County. We currently have nearly 150 members, and operate the repeaters on 147.735, 145.49 and 145.41 MHz. The Association was the recent recipient of a California State Senate Resolution, awarded by Senator Richard Rainey of Walnut Creek, in celebration of its 20th anniversary of providing service to the county.

Our System hosts a number of nets each week, including the CCRA Weekly Net, Monday evening at 7:35, where you can also hear the *Amateur Radio Newsline*. The first Saturday of every month is our Monthly Breakfast at the Diablo Creek Golf in Concord, where visitors are always welcomed. The group also hosts a Hospitality Suite, for members and their guests to enjoy while attending the ARRL Pacific Division Convention (PACIFICON). On even numbered months, we sponsor license exam sessions at the Contra Costa County Fire Training Center in Concord. Throughout the spring, summer and fall, numerous public service events are conducted on our System as well...a number of these activities sponsored by the Sheriff's Amateur Radio Unit and the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club itself.

If you'd like further information about the CCRA, please visit our Web site at <http://home.earthlink.net/~bgwatson/ccra/> You may also send email to bgwatson@earthlink.net, or contact us by phone at 510-676-8239.

Ramblings From the Editor

continued from page 1

Charles, and Jim for all of the material. Thanks to Donna for doing such a great job with the meeting minutes and thus saving me hours and hours of work.

How about Pacificon!!! Another year, another great convention. I'm looking forward to an even bigger, better Pacificon next year at the Sheraton.

That's all for this month. See you all at the meetings and at the club's holiday party next month.

NETS

W6CX Nets

APRS Net Tuesdays 1930 Hours
 147.060/+ (100 pl)
 Net Control: Barry, KC6WYA

Phone Net Thursdays 1930 Hours
 147.060/+ (100 pl)
 Net Control: Jay Caldis, KT6Y

ATV Net Thursdays 2000 Hours
 Net Control: Mike Burke, KB6RMT
 Alternate: Sylvia, KC6YJV

Youth Net Thursdays 1900 Hours
 147.060/+ (100 pl)
 Net Control: Jeff Burke, KE6YAW

Contra Costa County Emergency Services HF Net

First Thursday following first Wednesday, 2000 Hours, 3.895 MHz. Net Control: Richard Shappee, WA5HQJ

Sheriff's Amateur Radio Communications Team

Clay Yale, N6YBQ
 (510) 228-8223

Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Nets

Thursdays, 1900 Hours

Central County 145.680 Simplex
 Jim Brunk*, N6BHX
 (510) 372-8248

East County 146.535 Simplex
 Jim Tittle*, KC6SOE
 (510) 432-3220

South County 146.355/+ (100 pl)
 Ed Ritchie*, K6SFD
 (510) 837-3265

West County 145.110/-
 Rich Parker*, KD6JCT
 (510) 237-2777

QSY to 147.735/- at 1920 Hours
 Meeting of all County ARES/RACES Nets
 Sam Lipson, District Emergency Coordinator, KO6JR
 (510) 229-5705

* Assistant District Emergency Coordinator



Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club Holiday Party



December 17th at 6:00 pm
 Contra Costa Country Club
 801 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill

\$15 for Adults

\$8 for Children

Main Dish

Adults: Hazelnut Chicken Breast with Mandarin Orange and Rosemary Stuffing
 Children: Chicken Strips

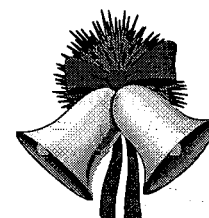
No-Host Bar at 6pm

Dinner at 7pm

Contact George Roush, WA6OZH

510-687-0912

Before December 4th



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 10	7:30 pm	MDARC Board Meeting	Baker's Square, Concord
November 21	8:00 pm	MDARC Meeting	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette
November 22	8:00 am	Pacificon '98 Meeting	Concord Sheraton
November 28		December <i>Carrier</i> Deadline	
December 7	7:00 am-Noon	Livermore Swapmeet	Las Positas College, Livermore 1st Sunday every month
December 7	1:00 pm	Sunnyvale VEC Exams Gene Capener, WW6H, 510-254-5090	Consolidated Fire Training Center 2945 Treat Blvd., Concord 1st Sunday even months

The Carrier
Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
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Address Correction Requested



MDARC Meeting: November 21

Official Ballot

Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

This is the official ballot of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club for the 1998 Calendar Year. **No other ballot will be issued under any circumstances.** Duplicates, photocopies, or other types of copy are void. This ballot may be mailed to:

Nominating Committee, MDARC
P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94532

Mailed ballots must be sealed and *postage paid* by the sender. Ballots must be mailed to arrive not later than 5 p.m. November 21, 1997 at the address shown. Ballots received after that date are null and void. Ballots may be cast in person at the General Membership Meeting of the Club held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette, California beginning at 8 p.m. November 21. All ballots must be deposited not later than 8:15 p.m. Mailed ballots will be opened in the presence of the Nominating Committee.

Ballots must contain an "X" in the box provided for the person for whom you are voting. Any other mark will render the ballot invalid for all offices *unless the mark is for a write-in candidate*.

Write-in candidates first and last names are required. The name of the candidate must be **printed**. The eligibility of the write-in candidates will be verified following the election by the Nominating Committee. No ineligible candidate may be declared a winner.

FOR PRESIDENT	Sam Lipson, KO6JR	
(Vote for one)		
FOR VICE PRESIDENT	Stuart Cannon, KE6OFD	
(Vote for one)		
FOR SECRETARY	Paul Dickey, N6JOX	
(Vote for one)		
FOR TREASURER	Greg Estep, KE6VTA	
(Vote for one)		
FOR EMERGENCY COORDINATOR	Robert Hampton, KF6FGH	
(Vote for one)		
FOR DIRECTOR - 1 Year	Cal Groom, KE6OEH	
(Vote for 2)	Keith Lattin, N6PMF	